

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

✓ 1. An electronic assembly comprising;

an image transfer device for reading and transferring an image from a first medium, the image transfer device including a reader for reading the image on the first medium, and a display for displaying an image transfer menu for effecting transfer of the image; and

a computer removably connected to the image transfer device;

wherein when the image transfer device is not connected to the computer the image transfer device has a first type of the image transfer menu available for display on the display of the device, and wherein when the image transfer device is connected to the computer the transfer device has a second type of the image transfer menu available for display on the display of the device.

2. An electronic assembly in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the image transfer device is at least one of a copier, a fax machine, or a printer.

3. An electronic assembly in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the image transfer device includes a processor for controlling operation of the device, a memory for storing the first type of the image transfer menu, and a user interface for accessing one of the types of image transfer menu displayed on the display.

4. An electronic assembly in accordance with Claim 3, wherein the second type of the image transfer menu is

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stored in the memory of the image transfer device, the processor being programmed to display on the display the first type of the image transfer menu when the computer is not connected to the image transfer device, and wherein the computer has software for enabling the processor of the device to display the second type of menu on the display of the device when the computer is connected to the image transfer device.

5. An electronic assembly in accordance with Claim 3, wherein at least a portion of the second type of the image transfer menu is stored in the computer.

6. An electronic assembly in accordance with Claim 5, wherein the processor is programmed to display on the display the first type of the image transfer menu when the computer is not connected to the image transfer device, and wherein the computer has software for sending information embodying the portion of the second type of the image transfer menu to the processor enabling the processor to display the second type of menu on the display of the device when the computer is connected to the image transfer device.

7. An electronic assembly in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the second type of the image transfer menu includes expanded features for operating the image transfer device in comparison to features of the first type of the image transfer menu.

8. An electronic assembly in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the first type of the image transfer menu comprises a base set of features including at least one of a feature for selecting a type of original, a feature for selecting device maintenance settings, a feature for selecting device default settings, or a feature for selecting language settings, and wherein the second type

of the image transfer menu comprises an expanded set of features, the expanded set of features including at least one of the features from the base set of features, and at least one extra feature not included in the base set of features.

9. An electronic assembly in accordance with Claim 8, wherein the image transfer device is a fax machine, and the extra feature is at least one of an extended phone log selection feature, or a delayed transmission selection feature.

10. An electronic assembly in accordance with Claim 8, wherein the extra feature is at least one of a feature for collating copies, a feature for adding a logo, a feature for adding a message, a feature for adding page numbering, or a feature for adding a watermark.

11. An electronic assembly in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the computer has software for communicating with the reader when the computer is connected to the reader and for receiving data read by the reader, and wherein the computer has software for manipulating the data received from the reader in accordance with a feature of the second type of the image transfer menu.

12. An electronic assembly in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the image transfer device is adapted to transfer the image to at least one of the computer connected to the image transfer device, another computer located at first remote site, or a printing device for printing the image on a second medium at a first remote site.

13. An electronic assembly in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the computer is adapted for sending a polling signal to determine ~~if~~ to determine if the computer is connected to the image transfer device, and wherein when the polling signal indicates that the computer is

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connected to the device, the computer uploads the second type of menu to the device.

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✓14. A transfer apparatus having a reader for scanning information disposed on a first medium, and a controller connected to the reader, the transfer apparatus comprising:

a connector connected to the controller for removably connecting a computer to the transfer apparatus; and

a display connected to the controller for displaying menus comprising features for operating the transfer apparatus;

wherein the display displays a first one of the menus when the computer is not connected to the apparatus, and wherein the display displays a second one of the menus when the computer is connected to the apparatus, the second menu comprising extended features for operating the apparatus in comparison to the first menu.

15. A transfer apparatus in accordance with Claim 14, wherein the apparatus further comprises a memory for storing the first menu, and wherein the controller is programmed to display the first menu on the display of the apparatus when the computer is not connected to the apparatus.

16. A transfer apparatus in accordance with Claim 14, wherein the controller receives instructions from the computer embodying at least a portion of the second menu stored in the computer, and wherein the instructions received from the computer enable the controller to display the second menu on the display of the apparatus when the computer is connected to the apparatus.

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17. A transfer apparatus in accordance with Claim 15, wherein the second menu is stored in the memory of the apparatus, and wherein the controller receives instructions from the computer enabling the controller to display the second menu on the display of the apparatus when the computer is connected to the apparatus.

18. A transfer apparatus in accordance with Claim 14, wherein the first menu has a predetermined number of features for operating the apparatus, and wherein the extended features of the second menu include at least one of the features from the first menu, and at least one extra feature not included in the first menu.

✓ 19. A method for transferring information from a first medium, the method comprising the steps of:

providing an image transfer device having a scanner for reading an image on the first medium;

reading the image on the first medium with the scanner;

automatically uploading electronic data to the transfer device from a computer connected to the transfer device;

with a processor of the image transfer device, automatically merging the electronic data with the image read by the scanner; and

transferring the merged image by the transfer device to a second medium.

20. A method in accordance with Claim 19, wherein the electronic data uploaded from the computer to the image transfer device stays with the image transfer device

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after the computer is disconnected from the image transfer device.

✓ 21. A method for enhancing operating features of a transfer device for transferring information from a first medium to a second medium, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a first command menu stored in a memory of the transfer device, the first command menu representing a first set of the operating features of the device, the first menu being available for display on a display of the device;

connecting a computer to the transfer device; and

with the computer, enabling the device to display a second command menu when the computer is connected to the device, the second command menu representing a second set of the operating features of the device, wherein the second set of operating features has expanded operating features in comparison to the first set of operating features of the device.

22. A method in accordance with Claim 21, further comprising the step of storing the second menu in the memory of the transfer device.

23. A method in accordance with Claim 21, further comprising the step of storing at least a portion of the second menu in a memory of the computer.

24. A method in accordance with Claim 23, wherein the step of enabling comprises sending information from the

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computer to the device, which information embodies the portion of the second menu stored in the computer.

25. A method in accordance with Claim 21, wherein the first menu has commands corresponding to the operating features in the first set of operating features, the first menu commands including at least one of a command for selecting a type of original, for selecting device maintenance settings, for selecting device default settings, or for selecting a display language setting.

26. A method in accordance with Claim 21, wherein the second set of the operating features includes at least one of the operating features in the first set of the operating features, and wherein the second set of the operating features further includes at least one of an extended phone log feature, a delayed transmission selection feature, a collating feature, a message addition feature, a logo addition feature, a page numbering feature, or a watermark addition feature.

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